

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 049782

10

ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

SCS-03 SCA-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY D/ PW: FASIEVERTS/ DOD/ ISA: JMBROWDER

3/16/73 EXT. 29454

APPROVED BY EA: AMB. GREEN

EA/ LC: MR. RIVES

EA/ VN: MR. ASKEW

EA/ TB: MR. WILKINSON

EA: AMB. SULLIVAN

JCS: MGEN. WOLFE

DOD/ ISA: DR. SHIELDS

----- 080364

R 170059 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC

INFO COMUSSAG NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAILAND

S E C R E T STATE 049782

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VN, VS, LA, CB

STATE- DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) (U)

1. (S) IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE CASUALTY RESOLUTION
SITUATION IN SE ASIA, A JCRC HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT
NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB, THAILAND. THE MISSION OF THE JCRC
IS TO RESOLVE THE STATUS OF US MISSING/ BODY NOT
RECOVERED PERSONNEL (INCLUDING US AND FOREIGN CIVILIANS)

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 049782

THROUGH THE CONDUCT OF PEACEFUL, HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS TO LOCATE AND INVESTIGATE CRASH/ GRAVE SITES AND RECOVER REMAINS, AS APPROPRIATE, THROUGHOUT SE ASIA. RECOMMENDED NEGOTIATING POINTS TO SUPPORT THE JCRC IN ACCOMPLISHMENT OF ITS MISSION WERE PROVIDED THE US REPRESENTATIVE ON THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION. US REP HAS RAISED REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURES FOR ACCOUNTING FOR MIA AND INVESTIGATION OF CRASH SITES IN SEVERAL MEETINGS OF FPJMC. HE REPORTS DRV APPEARS TO UNDERSTAND JCRC CONCEPT AND PROCEDURES AND AGREES THEY SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED PRIOR TO END OF SIXTY DAYS SPECIFIED IN VIETNAM AGREEMENT (I. E., MARCH 28).

2. (S) THE JCRC PLAN, WHICH HAS ADEQUATE FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST TO ANY NEGOTIATED AUTHORITIES, HAS PROVISION FOR THE FOLLOWING:

A. ORGANIZATION. A CINCPAC JOINT TASK FORCE RESPONSIBLE TO THE COMMANDER, US SUPPORT ACTIVITIES GROUP, TO ACCOMPLISH THE CASUALTY RESOLUTION MISSION. THE JCRC HAS ITS OWN JOINT TABLE OF DISTRIBUTION CONSISTING OF: A HEADQUARTERS/ COMMAND ELEMENT; A RECOVERY DETACHMENT OF US PERSONNEL (WITH AUTHORIZATION TO EMPLOY INDIGENOUS- HIRE PERSONNEL AS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT DETAILED GROUND SEARCHES IN BOTH INHABITED AND UNINHABITED AREAS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA); LAUNCH UNIT TO COORDINATE AIR SUPPORT, ASSIST IN OPERATION OF FORWARD LAUNCH SITES, AND PROVIDE CRASH SITE INVESTIGATORS, AS REQUIRED; AND A SUPPORTING CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY WITH A POOL OF GRAVES REGISTRATION SPECIALISTS FOR " ON CALL " INSPECTION OF LOCATED CRASH/ GRAVE SITES AND RECOVER REMAINS.

B. RECOVERY PERSONNEL. THE PROJECTED AREA OF OPERATIONS, MUCH OF WHICH IS IN HIGHLY REMOTE AREAS WITHOUT ROADS OR TRAILS, HEAVILY BOOBY TRAPPED, AND WITH UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE, REQUIRES THAT HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL LEAD THESE GROUND SEARCHES. THESE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE US MILITARY, US CIVIL SERVICE, OR US CIVILIAN CONTRACT, IN DESCENDING PRIORITY, DEPENDING ON INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. RECOVERY DETACHMENT TEAMS SHOULD
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 049782

INCLUDE INDIGENOUS- HIRE PERSONNEL RECRUITED, TRAINED,

AND MAINTAINED IN EACH COUNTRY OF INTEREST WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE HOST GOVERNMENTS. USE OF INDIGENOUS-HIRE PERSONNEL PROBABLY WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMUNIST PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT THAN MEMBERS OF CONVENTIONAL MILITARY FORCES.

C. OPERATIONS. CRASH/ GRAVE SITES WILL BE SEARCHED FOR IN A VARIETY OF WAYS:

(1) OPERATIONS IN REMOTE AREAS WILL NORMALLY INCLUDE METHODOICAL AIR AND GROUND SEARCHES FOR CRASH SITES. IT IS VISUALIZED THAT US- LED TEAMS OF APPROXIMATELY TWO US AND SIX INDIGENOUS- HIRE PERSONNEL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH AN AIR SEARCH, WOULD METHODICALLY INVEST GATE AREAS OF SUSPECTED CRASH/ GRAVE SITES.

ONCE AN AREA HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY SEARCHED, TEAMS WOULD BE RETURNED TO HOME BASE FOR A REST AND THEN REINSERTED INTO NEW AREAS. IF A CRASH/ GRAVE SITE IS LOCATED, PERSONNEL FROM THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY (GRAVES REGISTRATION SPECIALISTS) AND CRASH SITE INVESTIGATORS WOULD BE INSERTED, AS REQUIRED.

(2) IN THE MORE INHABITED AREAS, PERSONAL CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL PEOPLE FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE INFORMATION PROGRAMS AND COORDINATION WOULD BE THE PRIMARY TECHNIQUE. GRAVES REGISTRATION SPECIALISTS (WITH A SUITABLE REWARD IN THE MORE INHABITED AREAS WHERE THE LOCATION OF CRASH/ GRAVE SITES IS LIKELY TO BE KNOWN AND REASONABLY ACCESSIBLE.

3. (C) THESE OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER AUTHORITIES RESULTING FROM AGREEMENTS MADE IN THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS OR UNDERSTANDINGS IN THE CASE OF LAOS AND CAMBODIA.

4. (C) THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF ADDRESSEES AND HOST GOVERNMENTS IS REQUIRED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS HUMANITARIAN MISSION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. ADDRESSEE EMBASSIES,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 049782

IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH JCRC REPS, SHOULD:

A. MAKE CLEAR TO HOST GOVERNMENTS THE PEACEFUL AND HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE JCRC MISSION, EMPHASIZING THE FLEXIBILITY POSSIBLE TO MEET LOCAL CONDITIONS.

EMBASSIES SHOULD STRESS THAT OPERATIONS OF JCRC WILL BE ENTIRELY OPEN AND ABOVE BOARD, WITH NO ULTERIOR MILITARY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER. SOLE REASON FOR JCRC OPERATIONS IS PEACEFUL, HUMANITARIAN RESPONSIBILITY FOR CASUALTY RESOLUTION.

B. PREPARE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF JCRC IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, RECRUITING APPROPRIATE LOCAL PERSONNEL, AND PUBLICIZING JCRC PUBLIC INFORMATION AND REWARD PROGRAMS.

C. PROVIDE APPROPRIATE AREA CLEARANCES, GUIDANCE, AND DIRECTVON ON POLVTICAL AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS WHICH MAY AFFECT JCRC ACTIVITIES.

- -

5. FOR VIENTIANE: APPRECIATE APPROACHES ALREADY MADE TO PRIME MINISTER INFORMING HIM OF OUR PLANNING AND REQUESTING HIS ASSISTANCE (VIENTIANE 1784). IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE RLG WILL CARRY THE BURDEN OF SECURING FORMAL LPF AGREEMENT TO WHATEVER CASUALTY RESOLUTION ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERTAKEN. IN YOUR OWN ONGOING CONTACTS WITH LPF REPRESENTATIVES YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO STRESS PEACEFUL, OPEN, AND HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF CASUALTY RESOLUTION MISSION, AND OUR READINESS TO VARY METHODS OF SEARCH AND INSPECTION TO MEET LAO SITUATION. YOU SHOULD KEEP JCRC FULLY INFORMED OF LOCAL ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR USE IF JCRC ELEMENTS ARE DENIED ACCESS TO LAOS.

6. FOR PHNOM PENH: RECOGNIZE MUCH OF THE ABOVE IS PREMATURE IN CASE OF CAMBODIA, BUT YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM GKR OF ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION OF JCRC TO FACILITATE MISSION WHEN CONDITIONS PERMIT. ROGERS

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE049782
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FASIEVERTS/ DOD/ ISA: JMBROWDER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730331/aaaahxtc.tel
Line Count: 207
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN DPW
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971211
Subject: JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) (U)
TAGS: MOPS, CB, LA, VN, VS
To: BANGKOK
CINCPAC
PHNOM PENH
SAIGON
VIENTIANE INFO COMUSSAG NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAILAND
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

